

INTELOFAX 21

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 6 March 1952

SUBJECT Aircraft Engine Plant No. 500 in Moscow-Tushino

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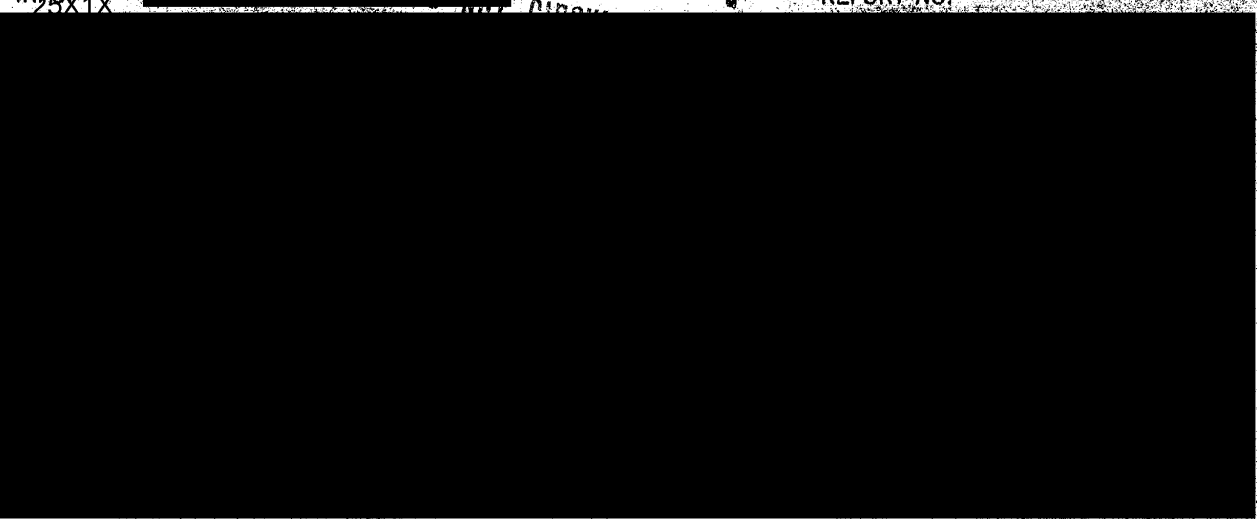
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(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. Zavod No 500, an aircraft engine plant in Moscow-Tushino, employed roughly 3,000 men, working three shifts. According to Soviets, the plant produced piston engines and jet engines. [REDACTED] the assembly of piston engines. German engineers employed at the plant said that they worked near the jet-engine department in a workshop specially fenced off. From this fact and the observation that the German engineers frequently went to the test stand, source inferred that they were employed for the development or construction of jet engines.

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2. [REDACTED] the jet engine test stand was on the northwestern side of the plant. It was about 20 meters high and had a floor space of 60 square meters. A reinforced concrete ceiling 30 cm thick was put in about 9 meters above the floor. The engines were mounted on this inserted ceiling. An iron staircase led to this ceiling and the tested engines were lifted by means of a hoisting device. * [REDACTED] each jet engine was tested for 15 hours. Two shipping boxes, 6x3x3 meters, were manufactured every day in the carpenter shop of the PW camp. These boxes were made of 40-mm boards, their interior was lined with sheet metal, and they were painted gray. The boxes were carried by 10 PWs to the entrance gate of the plant. From Soviet workers the PWs learned that jet engines were to be shipped in the boxes. Zavod 500 had a total of 3,000 employees, 30 percent of whom were women. Three shifts were worked.

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3. [REDACTED] the PW camp was located in an old workshop just by the side of the new test stand. About 100 PWs worked in three shifts at the PW carpentry shop located in the same workshop. Shipping boxes were manufactured and old ones were repaired there. The upper section of the boxes was detachable and strengthened by flat iron. Four strong iron eyes were fitted at the upper side of the boxes which were about 2.5x1.3x1.3 meters. According to a rough estimate, 12 to 20 boxes were manufactured or repaired within a 24-hour period. The boxes were, however, manufactured on special requests which varied greatly as to the numbers to be produced. The finished boxes were trucked away. The trucks would return after 20 minutes at most.
4. The new jet engine test stand was at the northwestern side of the plant. It was about 12 meters high and 25 meters long. The side facing the PW camp was covered with a shutter-like wooden structure. The noise heard from this test stand was entirely different from that produced by conventional piston engines and therefore it was generally assumed among PWs that jet engines were being tested there.

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Comment. [REDACTED] jet engine test stand see Annex 1. In the sketch the height of the test stand is given as 12 meters, while in the body of the report [REDACTED] as 20 meters. 25X1X

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Comment.

[REDACTED] sketch of these boxes. see Annex 2. 25X1X

Comment.

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Information from [REDACTED] of the present report appears improbable and does not agree with statements by other PWs. This applies particularly to the estimated measurements of the buildings and shipping boxes.

Annexes:

1. Sketch of Jet Engine Test Stand at Factory No. 500
2. Sketches of Shipping Boxes

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